IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 7 at line 16 as follows:

-- Figs. 4a through 4h schematically shows an arrangement of polarizing plates and the like on the bar code apparatus used in the system in accordance with the first embodiment of the present invention, and a relation between the arrangement and information obtained by the light reflected therefrom.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 8 at line 5 as follows:

-- Figs. 12a through 12g schematically shows an arrangement of polarizing plates and the like on the bar code apparatus used in the system in accordance with the second embodiment of the present invention, and a relation between the arrangement and information obtained by the light reflected therefrom.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 13 at line 6 as follows:

-- In the present embodiment, Referring to Fig. 7, when the scanning direction is within a range 160 of ± 15 degrees from the horizontal direction, outputs from photo sensors 132 and 134 are used. When the scanning direction is in the range 162 of + 15 to + 30 degrees from the horizontal direction, outputs from photo sensors 136 and 138 are used. When the scanning direction is in the range ~~160~~ 164 of - 15 to - 30 degrees, outputs from photo sensors ~~132~~ 140 and ~~134~~ 142 are used. In order to appropriately perform such a processing, provision of a "marker" formed by a polarizing plate having a horizontal polarization axis inserted to the inserting positions of opposing ends of bar code apparatus 22 is utilized. Details will be described later.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 14 at line 27 as follows:

-- In step 216, information corresponding to the code determined in this manner is retrieved from memory 154, and the information is displayed through input/output apparatus 156 in step 218. When the display ends, the buffer is erased (220), and the control returns to step ~~220~~ 200.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 19 at line 26 as follows:

-- Fig. 11 shows inclinations of polarization axes of the polarizing plates on respective bars of bar code apparatus 262 on the ~~abscissa~~ ordinate, inclinations of polarization axes of the polarizing plates provided in front of respective photo sensors on the ~~ordinate~~ abscissa, and photo sensor outputs corresponding to respective combinations in the form of a table, assuming that the scanning is almost horizontal. On the ~~abscissa~~ ordinate, a black circle (•) indicates that a light shielding plate is used, and a white circle (o) indicates that neither a polarizing plate nor a light shielding plate is used, respectively. On the right most end of code table 272A, codes corresponding to the combinations of outputs on the ~~right~~ left are indicated. In the present embodiment, the values in the table of Fig. 11 assume any of 0 to 3. Namely, the photo sensor outputs are quantized such that the maximum value corresponds to 3, no output corresponds to zero and outputs in the middle are divided into two and represented by 1 and 2, respectively. Quantization will be described later.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 21 at line 7 as follows:

-- Cases where the direction of polarizing plane of the incident light is the same as the direction of axis of polarization of the polarizing plate in front of the photo sensor and where the directions are orthogonal to each other have been described above. Figs. 12(d) and (e) represent method for quantization including other cases. Generally, when lines along the two directions form an angle of 30 degrees, the intensity of light entering the photo sensor will be about $(\sqrt{3})/2 \approx 0.866$ times the maximum value, and when the angle is 60 degrees, the intensity is about 0.5 times the maximum value. Therefore, in the present embodiment, the maximum value M of the input is used as a reference, and values 0.3 times, 0.7 times and 0.9 times the maximum value are used as thresholds. When an input value X satisfies $X < 0.3M$, the value is regarded as 0; when θ $\underline{0.3M} \leq X \leq 0.7M$, the value is regarded as 1; when $0.7M \leq X < 0.9M$, the value is regarded as 2; and when $0.9M \leq X$, the value is regarded as ~~4~~ 3. In Fig. 12, (f) and (g) represent numbers obtained in this manner from the waveforms of (d) and (e). It is naturally understood that different thresholds may be used.--